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SECURITY INFORMATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

IG Farben Plant at Heydebreck

1. Since the middle of 1950, the former IG Farben Plant in Heydebreck (50° 21' N, 18° 12' E), which was 60 percent destroyed during the war, has been under reconstruction. Since the original blueprints were not available and there is also a lack of the necessary construction specialists, the factory's reconstruction has been made extremely difficult, but the critical phases have been hastened since the spring of 1950 by order of the government.
2. This plant is to have, according to statements by Polish experts, the largest capacity in the chemical industry. The gas pipeline from Hindenburg to Heydebreck, which the Soviets shipped to the USSR, was to be relaid starting in June 1951. The original iron pipe, 60-cm in diameter will be replaced with 35-cm pipe because of a shortage of material, and it is anticipated it will be completed by the spring of 1952.
3. The pipe is being manufactured in sections in accordance with the design established by technicians who have been making exact measurements along the entire route. Four to five sections have already been started. After the ditches have been dug, four to five sections of piping, which will lie 1 to 1.6 meters below ground level, will be welded together before being lowered into the ditch by block and tackle. After such a welded section of piping, which will reach two to four kilometers, has been installed, it will be carefully inspected for faults.

Gliwice Chemical Plant

4. The chemical plant at Gliwice (50° 17' N, 18° 40' E) lies on the edge of the city in the former artillery caserne, which has been completely reconstructed for this purpose. The production capacity of this plant, which is quite an extensive installation reconstructed through state subsidy, is the greatest of its kind with the exception of the former IG Farben plant at Heydebreck. Between 3,000 and 4,000 workers are employed in the factory.
5. Attached to the plant is a research institute which is situated in a neighboring caserne. In addition to the usual chemicals such as acids, alkalis and varnishes, this factory has recently initiated the manufacture of medicines. The plant operates under severe shortages of materiel and raw materials so that the prescribed norms are often not met.

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6. Health conditions among the workers are extremely bad. Chemists, laboratory technicians and their assistants are subjected to medical supervision, but there are still more or less frequent cases of severe poisoning. This is especially common among the female workers.

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